

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Reviewer:

In accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, we enclose for your review the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management's (OCRM) Review of Amendments to the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP). If you did not receive a copy of appendices A-D which were provided with the draft EIS, and would like to receive a set, they are available from the responsible person contact information listed below upon request.

This FEIS is prepared pursuant to NEPA to assess the environmental impacts associated with OCRM's approval of several changes to Alaska's Coastal Management Program, submitted by the State of Alaska to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, and OCRM regulations on amendments to approved state coastal zone management programs (15 CFR part 923, subpart H), states must submit changes to their programs and their enforceable policies to OCRM for approval in order to allow continued federal funding for program implementation and application of federal consistency under the new enforceable policies.

Any written comments on the FEIS should be directed to the responsible official identified below by December 27, 2005. A copy of your comments should be submitted to me by mail at NOAA Strategic Planning Office (PPI/SP), SSMC3, Rm. 15603, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910; by fax to 301-713-0585; or by e-mail to nepa.comments@noaa.gov.

NOAA is not required to respond to comments received as a result of issuance of the FEIS, however, comments will be reviewed and considered for their impact on issuance of a record of decision (ROD). The ROD will be printed in the Federal Register some time after December 27, 2005.

Responsible Person:

Helen Bass Coastal Programs Division Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management National Ocean Service/NOAA SSMC4, N/ORM3, Rm. 11207 1305 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910 Telephone: 301-713-3155, extension 175

Fax: 301-713-4367

E-mail: Helen.Bass@noaa.gov

Sincerely,

Susan A. Kennedy

Acting NEPA Coordinator





